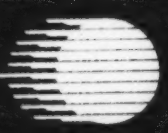
Annual Report

Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development

Manitoba Round Table
for Sustainable Development



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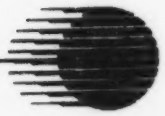
Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development

Annual Report 2001 – 2002

(1 April 2001 to 31 March 2002)

Manitoba Round Table
for Sustainable Development



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Honourable Peter M. Liba, C.M.,O.M.
Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba
Room 235 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8

Your Honour:

This Report marks the second year for the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development in its new role of advising on sustainable development policy implementation. The Report looks at the duties and powers of the Manitoba Round Table and highlights their priorities and activities in 2001-2002.

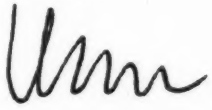
During the past year, the Manitoba Round Table immersed itself in a number of priority areas of government, learning more about these issues and the government processes to implement them. Advising on implementation of the COSDI recommendations continues to be a priority area of the Round Table, with the current focus on the East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Process.

One of the highlights of the past year was an international conference held in Winnipeg on nature conservation, co-hosted by the Manitoba Round Table and National Round Table on Environment and Economy. Over 600 people across North America attended the conference, the largest of its kind ever held in Canada.

Other issues in which the Manitoba Round Table has been active over the past year include energy and climate change, sustainability indicators, water management strategy, and priorities for Manitoba's forests. As we continue to move forward in our journey toward sustainable development, the Manitoba Round Table will help ensure provincial laws and policies are consistent with the principles and guidelines of sustainable development.

I am pleased to present Your Honour with the 2001-2002 Annual Report of the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development.

Sincerely,



Oscar Lathlin
Chair

INTRODUCTION

The Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development was established on proclamation of ***The Sustainable Development Act*** on July 1, 1998. This is the ***2001-2002 Annual Report*** of the Manitoba Round Table as required by *Section 4* of the *Act*.

MANITOBA ROUND TABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development is an advisory body to the government of Manitoba. Their role is to advise and support decision-makers in making responsible resource, land use, environmental, social and economic development decisions. The Manitoba Round Table is an integral component of the province's Sustainable Development Strategy.

Members of the Manitoba Round Table are appointed by the Minister of Conservation through Order-in-Council. Bringing a broad range of experience and technical expertise, and representing regions and sectors of the province, Manitoba Round Table members contribute to sound and informed implementation of sustainable development strategies in every aspect of public administration. To reflect government's commitment to sustainable development and to emphasize the cross-departmental responsibilities in implementation, six cabinet ministers serve as members of the Manitoba Round Table.

During 2001-2002, there were twenty six members of the Manitoba Round Table, with the Minister of Conservation as Chair. The Manitoba Round Table met four times in 2001-2002: April, June, October 2001, and February 2002. They also co-hosted a national conference on *Conservation that Works* with the National Round Table on Environment and Economy (NRTEE) in November, 2001.

DUTIES OF THE MANITOBA ROUND TABLE

The duties of the Manitoba Round Table, as legislated by *The Sustainable Development Act* are:

- Creating awareness and understanding of sustainable development;
- Cooperating with public-sector organizations, private industry, non-government organizations and the public to share knowledge and experience;
- Reviewing the principles and guidelines of sustainable development to ensure that they are comprehensive and contemporary;
- Advising on development and review of the Sustainable Development Strategy;
- Advising on development and review of sustainability indicators;
- At the request of the minister, reviewing existing or proposed policy, legislation, regulations or programs for consistency with the principles and guidelines, and reporting to the minister with recommendations;
- Establishing mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating implementation of sustainable development strategies and activities; and
- Other tasks and activities related to sustainable development, at the request of the minister.

POWERS OF THE MANITOBA ROUND TABLE

The Manitoba Round Table may:

- Make its own rules of procedure, including procedures of committees;
- Identify, promote and encourage projects and activities that exemplify sustainable development practices;
- Initiate, sponsor and support seminars, workshops, and conferences related to sustainable development;
- Conduct studies and investigations, and advise and make recommendations to the minister on matters related to sustainable development, other than matters involving the gathering of evidence to determine whether or not specific persons or bodies are complying with the provisions of the act and the regulations;
- Publish reports and other materials; and
- Do all things necessary to the effective carrying out of its duties under *The Sustainable Development Act*.

MEMBERS 2001-2002

Honourable Oscar Lathlin, Chair, Minister of Conservation

Mr. Jack Dubois (until January 2002), Vice-Chair, Associate Curator of Mammalogy and Ornithology, Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, Winnipeg

Mr. Jim Anderson, The Pas

Mr. Carl Braun, Ketaskinow Technical Field Works, member of Aboriginal Resource Council, Thompson

Honourable Drew Caldwell, Minister of Education, Training and Youth

Mr. Gord Collis, Simplot Canada Ltd., Brandon

Mr. Bill Elliott, President and CEO, Fort Whyte Centre for Environmental Education, Winnipeg

Honourable Jean Friesen, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

Mr. Richard Gaywish, Co-chair Aboriginal Resource Council, Winnipeg

Mr. Dwayne Hamilton, Brown Byre Farms, Glenboro

Mr. David Hatch, President, Green Spaces Environmental Consulting, Winnipeg

Ms. Judy Head, Swampy Cree Tribal Council, The Pas

Mr. Ed Huebert, Executive Vice-President, Mining Association of Manitoba, Winnipeg

Mr. Doug Lauvstad, Director of Planning and External Relations, Keewatin Community College, The Pas

Ms. Bev Leadbeater, Rock Lake Community Round Table, Crystal City

Ms. Jillian Maguet, Supervisor, Riding Mountain National Park, Onanole

Dr. Peter Miller, Professor, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg

Ms. Maureen Prendiville, President, Prendiville Industries, Winnipeg

Ms. Connie Pringle, Director of Operations, Inter-Universities North, Thompson

Dr. William Pruitt, Professor of Zoology, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg

Dr. David Punter, Professor and Head of Botany Department, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg

Honourable Eric Robinson, Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs

Honourable Greg Selinger, Minister of Finance

Mr. Dan Soprovich, Wildlife Ecologist, Swan River

Mr. Art Sparling, P. Eng., Winnipeg

Honourable Rosann Wowchuk, Minister of Agriculture and Food

Honourable Oscar Lathlin, Chair

In 1990, Oscar was elected as member of the legislature for The Pas, and re-elected in 1995 and 1999. While in opposition, Oscar held several critic portfolios, including: Natural Resources, Northern Affairs, Native Affairs, and the Community Economic Development Fund. Mr. Lathlin was also appointed on two separate occasions to represent the NDP on Manitoba's Constitutional Task Force. Following an NDP return to government in Manitoba, Oscar was appointed to Cabinet in the new Ministry of Conservation. As a Chief of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Mr. Lathlin has served on various committees of the Assembly of First Nations. As well, Mr. Lathlin has served as a member of the Policy Advisory Committee of the Brandon University Native Teacher Education Program. Oscar was born and raised at Opaskwayak Cree Nation in The Pas in northern Manitoba. He left his community to attend high school at Frontier Collegiate in Cranberry Portage where he graduated in 1969. He returned to The Pas where he was employed by The Pas Band as a Band Manager. Oscar later worked for the federal government in various senior management roles. In 1979 Oscar became Executive Director of Swampy Cree Tribal Council and in 1985 he was elected Chief of The Pas Band.

Mr. Jack Dubois, Vice Chair (member until December 2001)

Jack was born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba and is a graduate of the University of Manitoba (Zoology/Botany). He has been employed at the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature since 1971, as Associate Curator - Mammalogy & Ornithology. Jack has been a member of the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development from 1988 to present, (with a two year hiatus in '96-'97), and is currently the vice-chair. He is past-president of the board of the Manitoba Naturalists Society, chair of the board of the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, a member of the Board of Governors of the Manitoba Museum and a member of the management board of Wapusk National Park. Jack was past chair of the board of Manitoba Eco-Network Inc. - an umbrella affiliation of environmental groups in Manitoba - from 1986 to 1995. He was also a former Manitoba representative and member of the Management Committee of the National Steering Committee of the Canadian Environmental Network. Jack resigned from the Manitoba Round Table in January 2002 to take on the position of

Director, Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch with Manitoba Conservation.

Mr. Jim Anderson

Jim was born and raised in The Pas and has worked in the areas of mines, forestry and highways in Manitoba's north for forty years. From 1972 – 2000, he played an active role as President, Secretary, and Business Agent for Industrial Wood and Allied Workers of Canada, Local 324.

Mr. Carl Braun

Carl is from Wabowden and currently operates Ketaksinow Technical Fieldworks Consulting. He currently holds contracts with the Nelson House Fishermen's Association, and the Nelson River Sturgeon Co-management Board. He is and has worked with industry, First Nations communities, Tribal Councils and Aboriginal and non-aboriginal organizations on numerous contracts and projects.

Honourable Drew Caldwell

Drew was elected to the Manitoba legislature in 1999 and appointed as Minister of Education and Training. Previously, he was a three-term Brandon city councillor for historic downtown Rosser Ward. He served on a number of provincial organizations, including the Union of Manitoba Municipalities, the Manitoba Association for Urban Municipalities and the Association of Manitoba Municipalities. An active member of his community, he served as chair of the Brandon Poverty Forum, chair of the Brandon Solid Waste Management Committee and an executive member of the Downtown Brandon BIZ, the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba and the Brandon Folk Music and Art Festival. He was a member of the Brandon Seniors Housing Committee, the Marquis Project, the Rosser Ward Citizens' Association and Park Community Centre, among others. Drew was born and raised in Brandon and obtained a BA at Brandon University, BEd (Queen's University) and graduate work at McGill University.

Mr. Gord Collis

Gord is an environmental consultant and Chemical Engineer with 37 years in the phosphate and nitrogen fertilizer industry across Western Canada. He has participated in environmental and safety audits in Canada and the US. Gord has sat on numerous boards and committees, including: Minister's Advisory Council, Workplace Health and Safety, Manitoba Contaminated Sites, Environmental Act Approvals,

Pollution Prevention Recognition and Awards, Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment and COSDI, to name a few. He has testified at numerous Clean Environment Commission, National Energy Board and Manitoba Public Utilities Board hearings on environment, natural gas and electric power issues. He was a founding member, then Chair, Environment Committee, Canadian Fertilizer Institute.

Mr. Bill Elliott

Bill is President and CEO of the Fort Whyte Centre for Environmental Education. Prior to working at Fort Whyte, Bill was employed by Ducks Unlimited Canada as a Habitat Development Biologist, followed by five-years as Development Co-ordinator with the Delta Waterfowl Foundation.

Mr. Richard Gaywish

Richard is from Rolling River First Nation. He currently works as Manager for the West Region Economic Development Corporation. Richard has worked as an Economic Development Consultant and Advisor to First Nations communities for approximately twenty-five years and was extremely instrumental in establishing key development projects within Manitoba.

Mr. Dwayne Hamilton

Dwayne owns and operates Brown Byre Farms, located on Ducks Unlimited's original Goodman Project. He was a member of the Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation (COSDI) core group representing agriculture. He served as Vice-President of Keystone Agriculture Producers, acts as Chairman of the Heartland Livestock Advisory Committee and is a member of the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation.

Mr. David Hatch

David is president of Green Spaces Environmental Consulting, engaging in environmental consulting across Canada. He is also president of Aurora Canada Tours, an ecotourism company conducting nature tours around the world.

Ms. Judy Head

Judy has worked in various administrative management positions for 30 years. Judy's expertise is in the area of Lands, Reserves and Trusts as they relate to First Nations communities. This involves policy development and implementation of the *First Nations Land Management Act*, First Nations Land Tax bylaws and First Nations Comprehensive and specific land claims.

Judy works with Swampy Cree Tribal Council.

Honourable Jean Friesen

Jean Friesen (Edwards) was elected as MLA for Wolseley in 1990 and re-elected in 1995 and 1999. She has served as opposition critic for Urban Affairs, Labour, Culture and Education. Jean was appointed as Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs in 1999 and also serves as Manitoba's Deputy Premier. Jean grew up in England and was educated at McGill University and the University of British Columbia. She came to Manitoba in 1973 where she has been a professor of history and head of University College at the University of Manitoba. She has served as Chair of the Manitoba Heritage Council, Editor of *Manitoba History*, and as a Director of the Forks Renewal Corporation.

Mr. Ed Huebert

Ed is Executive Vice-President of the Mining Association of Manitoba and the Mines Accident Prevention Association of Manitoba. He sits on various committees including the Manitoba Labour Board, Worker's Compensation Board, World Wildlife Fund of Canada, Building Partnerships Working Group and Mineral Exploration Liaison Committee. Ed was a member of the COSDI core group and has previously been employed with Manitoba Energy and Mines.

Mr. Doug Lauvstad

Doug is Director of Planning and External Relations at Keewatin Community College in The Pas, and has held a number of senior management positions at the College since 1988. He has lived and worked in northern Manitoba most of his life. Doug has extensive experience in northern economic development initiatives and is also currently Managing Director of the Northern Forest Diversification Centre. This project is designed to encourage and develop sustainable economic activities in remote northern communities using local resources for the benefit of local residents. Doug is also finishing a MBA program through Athabasca University.

Ms. Bev Leadbeater

Bev has been employed for ten years as a bookkeeper for two pharmacies in southern Manitoba. Bev has been actively involved with her local Round Table initiative since its onset in 1993, serving as Vice-Chair, Chair and Secretary. Bev and her family operate a mixed farm on the Canada-US border.

Ms. Jillian Maguet

Jillian has been employed as a Supervisor at Riding Mountain National Park for the past four years. She was a member of the previous Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development. Jillian currently is the Chair of the Education and Communication Committee of the Manitoba Round Table. Her interest in the Manitoba Round Table comes from her strong background in communication, agriculture and in working with groups of varied interests.

Dr. Peter Miller

Peter is Professor, Senior Scholar and past Chair of Philosophy and member of the Centre for Forest Interdisciplinary Research at the University of Winnipeg. He is also an adjunct Professor in the Natural Resources Institute and the Department of Philosophy at the University of Manitoba. Dr. Miller is a Vice-President of T.R.E.E. (Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems), a Vice-President of the Manitoba Model Forest, and past President of the Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics. He received his Ph. D. in Philosophy from Yale University.

Ms. Maureen Prendiville

Maureen is President of Prendiville Industries, a 50-year old resource-based family business with locations in Thompson, Birch River, Neepawa and Winnipeg. Since joining Prendiville Industries in 1973, she has been involved in many business and community organizations including Channel Area Loggers, Young Presidents Organization, Manitoba Business Council and the Canadian Association of Family Enterprises. Maureen was a member of the International Trade Advisory Committee during the Canada-USA Free Trade Agreement negotiations.

Ms. Connie Pringle

Connie is Director of Operations, Inter-Universities North in Thompson. She has a Master's Degree in Business Administration and a Bachelor's Degree in Home Economics. Connie has extensive business, management and financial experience and has worked for Keewatin Community College, Northern Manitoba Business Institute, Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Swampy Cree Tribal Council and Northern Manpower Training Corps.

Dr. William Pruitt

William is Professor of Zoology at the University of Manitoba. He has worked extensively in the Boreal Forest in Manitoba and is Founder and Director of the TAIGA Biological Station. He has travelled abroad and has experience in northern ecosystems around the world.

Dr. David Punter

David is Professor and Head of the Department of Botany at the University of Manitoba. He is President of the Manitoba Association of Plant Biologists, and a member of the Canadian Phytopathological Society, Canadian Botanical Association and the British Mycological Society. His interests include diseases of forest trees, sustainable utilization of non-timber forest products and conservation of rare and endangered plant species.

Honourable Eric Robinson

Eric was elected as MLA for Rupertsland in a by-election in 1993 and was re-elected in 1995 and 1999. Eric was appointed as Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs in 1999. He was the critic for Native Affairs and for the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry. Eric is from Cross Lake First Nation. He maintains strong ties to northern communities and has been active on Aboriginal issues for many years, working for the Assembly of First Nations and the Brotherhood of Indian Nations, among other organizations. He was a researcher for the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry and is a strong supporter of the inquiry's recommendations. Eric's communications expertise is extensive and includes radio broadcasting and production for CBC North Country in Churchill and Thompson, in Cree and English. He worked for Native Communications Incorporated broadcasting in northern and southern Manitoba. He was a founder of the Native Media Network, co-author of the book *Infested Blanket*, as well as a facilitator and master of ceremonies for many traditional and cultural events. He has been politically active as a President, Vice President and Director of many organizations.

Mr. Dan Soprovich

Dan is a Wildlife Ecologist with Bluestem Wildlife Services. He worked for the Government of Manitoba as a Wildlife Biologist, a Population Ecologist and a Wildlife Technician for fifteen years. He has extensive work experience with Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl Research

Station, University of Manitoba and Canadian Wildlife Services.

Honourable Gregory Selinger

Greg was appointed to the Finance portfolio in October 1999. Greg is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Manitoba and has taught courses in social policy and community development. He represented St. Boniface as City Councillor and chaired the City's Committee on Finance and Administration. Greg has served as a Director of St. Boniface Hospital and the St. Boniface Museum and as President of the Old St. Boniface Residents Association. Greg coached soccer at Notre Dame Community Club and basketball at the YMCA. Greg has a PhD (London School of Economics), a Master's Degree in Public Administration (Queen's University) and a Bachelor of Social Work (University of Manitoba).

Mr. Art Sparling

Art worked for the Government of Manitoba and was Chief Engineer for the Clean Environment Commission. He taught Civil Engineering at the University of Manitoba (1971-1993) and did extensive research in waste management and, in particular, solid waste disposal. Art is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geological Scientists of Manitoba.

Honourable Rosann Wowchuk

Rosann was born and raised in Cowan, Manitoba. Prior to her election in 1990 for Swan River, Rosann worked as an organizer for the New Democratic Party. She was re-elected in 1995 and 1999. Rosann was appointed as Minister of Agriculture in 1999. Rosann was critic for Agriculture, Crop Insurance and the Agriculture Credit Corporation and deputy critic for Rural Economic Development. Rosann trained at Manitoba Teachers College and taught at several area schools. In addition to ownership in a mixed farming operation, she started and managed a successful ceramics business for three years. Rosann has a great deal of experience in serving her community, as Councillor and Deputy Reeve of Local Government District of Mountain (1983-1990), Chair of the Cowan Soil and Water Co-op, Vice-Chair of the North West Soil Management Association, member of the Swan River Hospital and Ambulance Committee, a 4-H leader, secretary of the Cowan Community Centre and member in other community groups, including the Swan River Rotary Club.

PRIORITIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE MANITOBA ROUND TABLE, 2001- 2002

The Manitoba Round Table continued to work on many sustainability issues over the 2001-2002 fiscal year. As well, a number of featured speakers provided presentations on related topics at Manitoba Round Table meetings.

East Side Planning Process

Wide area planning is a major recommendation of the Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation (COSDI) Report that was formally adopted by Manitoba Conservation as a central feature of the province's sustainable development strategy on June 29, 2000.

Under Phase I of the project, a three-member government review panel was established in the fall of 2000 to consult with First Nations, local communities, the public, industry, non-government organizations and others interested in the future of the area.
The panel gathered views and made recommendations on several elements of the initiative including:

- steps and timing for the planning process;
- boundaries for the planning area; and
- establishment of an East Side Lake Winnipeg Round Table and a larger Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

The Manitoba Round Table's Planning and Assessment Committee was kept abreast of the East Side Planning Process through numerous presentations and updates at their meetings. A report on Phase I of the process was released by government in the fall of 2001. The Round Table reviewed the Phase I report and provided comments and recommendations to government in January 2002. The Round Table's recommendations focused on three areas – level of research needed, adequacy of timelines and alternate forms of economic development.

Phase II of the East Side Planning Process was initiated in the spring of 2002 with the establishment of the East Side Round Table, chaired by Phil Fontaine, former Grand Chief, Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs. Two members of the Manitoba Round Table were selected as members of the East Side Round Table - Mr. Peter Miller and Mr. David Punter. They will be providing updates on

the East Side Planning Process to the MRT on an ongoing basis.

Energy and Climate Change

Mr. Jack Dubois, Vice Chair, was appointed to the Manitoba Climate Change Task Force, which conducted public consultations in May and June, 2001. The task force submitted their final report to government in September of 2001. Recommendations included:

- crafting a provincial energy policy that demands development of renewable and alternative energy options;
- a review of Manitoba Hydro's Hydro Act;
- introducing an expanded grants and interest rate incentive program by Manitoba Hydro;
- defining climate change components for continental energy policy with US and Mexico;
- research and analysis focusing on local and prairie regional effects of climate change;
- establishing a northern strategic initiative addressing crucial northern issues;
- incentives for alternative fuels and funding for transit;
- comprehensive education, outreach and training programs to raise public's awareness of climate change.

A number of the task force's recommendations are currently being acted upon by government. For more information on this issue, please contact Bryan Gray, Director, Climate Change Branch, Manitoba Conservation, Suite 160, 123 Main Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 1A5.

The Manitoba Round Table's Environmental Quality/Economic Development Committee developed a proposal on Green Fiscal Policy for consideration by the full Round Table and subsequent submission to government. The Committee and Manitoba Conservation are continuing to hold discussions on this issue.

Water Management Strategy

The Round Table received a presentation on the Water Management Strategy with the release of the Water Management Strategy discussion document in October, 2001. David Hatch of the Manitoba Round Table and Carl Braun of the Aboriginal Resource Council (Carl is also a member of the MRT) were appointed to the Manitoba Water Strategy Steering Team, which consists of a

cross section of government, NGO and business organizations. A broader Advisory Board was also established that had a representative from the Round Table – Art Sparling.

Consultations on the discussion document took place between October 2001 and April 2002. The final report from the Steering Committee was submitted to the Minister of Conservation at the end of April 2002. The Round Table will continue its involvement with the water management strategy process into the next fiscal year as recommendations of the Steering Committee's report begin to be implemented.

Priorities for Sustaining Manitoba's Forests

Priorities for sustaining Manitoba's forests is one of government's policy priorities regarding sustainable development implementation, and the Round Table was asked to provide advice on this issue. Government feels it is important to identify priorities within the forest sector. A "Forests Priority" document was released in March 2002 that takes into account existing forest policies and other issues raised by the climate change task force recommendations, co-management initiatives and Aboriginal Employment Strategy. Government wants a transparent process with clear priorities and goals. The forest priorities include:

- increase in scientific and traditional knowledge of forests (inventories);
- forest stewardship – protected areas, large area planning, long term planning and forestry interests;
- co-management and aboriginal opportunities/employment;
- sustainable forest economy (timber and non timber forest sectors); and
- update The Forest Act – new forest practice guidelines.

The Round Table will continue to provide input on this issue as government proceeds.

Sustainability Indicators Initiative

Under section 9(2) of *The Sustainable Development Act*, the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development is responsible for:

- preparing a draft set of sustainability indicators;
- consulting with the public and experts regarding the proposed indicators; and
- preparing and submitting a report to the minister respecting proposed indicators and any related issues, setting out any

recommendations it considers appropriate.

The Manitoba Round Table submitted their final report to government on the proposed sustainability indicators in June 2001. In July 2001, government accepted the categories of indicators as recommended by the Round Table on an interim basis. Further consultation and indicator development work is to occurr before a final set of indicators is adopted. A process has been initiated by government to further refine the indicators and prepare a sustainabiltiy report for further consultation focused on Aboriginal people and youth. The final indicator set will form the basis for ongoing sustainability reporting in Manitoba.

Sustainable Development Education Strategy

Feedback on a concept paper for an education strategy prepared by the Manitoba Round Table in 1997 was compiled into a *What You Told Us* document and released in the fall of 2001. The Manitoba Round Table is now considering development of a draft sustainable development education strategy for Manitoba.

Fish and Wildlife Strategies

The Manitoba Round Table submitted its final recommendations to government on fish and wildlife policies in June 2001. The recommendations are now before cabinet for review.

Sustainable Development Scholarship Program

The Sustainable Development Scholarship Program, established in 1996, annually awards a scholarship to a post-secondary student in Manitoba pursuing studies and undertaking research that embraces the spirit and principles of sustainable development. It is open to students in any field of study offered at an approved Manitoba post-secondary institution. A single non-renewable scholarship of $5,000 is awarded to cover cost of tuition, books, fees and other education expenses. The 2001-2002 Sustainable Development Scholarship was awarded to Scott D. Chapman. Scott is enrolled in the Master of Science, Environmental Engineering Program at the University of Manitoba. His thesis involves finding a sustainable use and market for straw that becomes too wet for use as feedstock. In addition to the monetary

award, Scott also was named an International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Scholar and will receive special privileges at IISD.

Featured Speakers at MRT Meetings

During 2001 – 2002, a number of featured speakers provided presentations on related topics at Manitoba Round Table meetings.

- Mr. Ken Adams of Manitoba Hydro provided a presentation at the April 9, 2001 meeting regarding Manitoba Hydro and developments in northern Manitoba.

- Ms. Dawn Bronson of Parks Canada provided a presentation at the June 4, 2001 meeting on Wapusk National Park, a proposed new national park for Manitoba lowlands and the Historic Places Initiative of Parks Canada.

- Ms. Gaile Whelan Enns provided a presentation at the October 22, 2001 meeting on Manitoba's protected areas.

- Mr. Lorne Colpitts and Mr. Tim Sopuck provided presentations on Why the Need for a Crown Corporation for Habitat Heritage, the Riparian Stewardship Program and the Agro-Woodlot Program.

CONSERVATION THAT WORKS! CONFERENCE

The Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development and National Round Table on Environment and Economy co-hosted an international conference in Winnipeg November 7-8, 2001 at the Delta Hotel. The conference was titled ***Conservation That Works! For Nature, for Communities, for the Economy***. This international gathering invited all sectors to explore innovative approaches and tools that can bring us closer to a balance between conserving the natural environment and sustaining the economy. Areas of focus were:

- What are the barriers facing industry, agricultural producers, Aboriginal and resource communities?
- What are the new tools and partnerships being shaped to bust barriers and encourage the stewardship of our natural heritage, not just on public but also private lands?

Local and international speakers from government, resource industries, First Nations, science, and conservation communities set the stage for insightful discussions and frank debate. The conference was held as part of the NRTEE's *Conservation of Natural Heritage* program that will ultimately contribute recommendations to the Prime Minister for engaging Canadians in a new vision for our lands and waters.

The conference co-chairs were Terry Duguid, Chair, NRTEE's Conservation of Natural Heritage program and Jack Dubois, Vice-Chair, Manitoba Round Table on Sustainable Development. The Honourable Gary Doer, Premier of Manitoba brought welcoming remarks from the province. Over 600 people attended the conference, this was the largest gathering of people at a conference of this kind in Canada.

For proceedings on the conference, visit:
www.nrtee-trnee.ca/eng/features/Features_e.htm and select Conservation That Works!

MANITOBA YOUTH ROUND TABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The new Youth Round Table was re-established in the fall of 2001. The mission of the Youth Round Table is to apply young people's unique perspective to the task of ensuring that future generations have clean, safe and healthy air, land and water in which to live, work and play. Members of the Youth Round Table as of March 31, 2001 were as follows:

Ms. Leanne Anderson, Winnipeg
Mr. Christopher Andrews, God's Lake Narrows
Ms. Margot Block, Winnipeg
Ms. Tiffany Burns, The Pas
Ms. Joy de Castro, Winnipeg
Ms. Diana Glenn, Strathclair
Mr. David Huck, Snow Lake
Ms. Marta Keller, Winnipeg
Ms. Julia Magnuson-Ford, Stonewall
Ms. Rebecca Nepinak, Winnipeg (Chair)
Mr. Mitch Obach, Wawanesa
Mr. Barrette Jason Timothy Plett, Winnipeg
Mr. Matthew D. Skinner, Brandon
Mr. Laren Bill, Winnipeg

The Youth Round Table's first meeting was held December 2001. They reviewed and adopted their terms of reference, met with Minister of Education Training and Youth, Honourable Drew Caldwell and discussed possible projects they may wish to undertake. Possible projects include:

- establishing a Youth Round Table Web site
- educate young Manitobans in all areas concerning sustainable development
- encourage youth participation in sustainable development educational events

The chair of the Youth Round Table, Rebecca Nepinak was appointed by Honourable Oscar Lathlin, chair of the Manitoba Round Table. Rebecca, as chair of the YRT, was also appointed to sit as a member of the Manitoba Round Table. Members of the Youth Round Table were invited to sit on at least one committee of the Manitoba Round Table. Having Youth Round Table members on these committees ensures the views of youth are present in all deliberations of the Manitoba Round Table.

COMMITTEES OF THE MANITOBA ROUND TABLE

Priority issues and responsibilities of the Manitoba Round Table are handled most effectively by a committee structure. Five committees were established for the Manitoba Round Table. They are listed below with their priority areas of focus:

Sustainable Development Policy/Strategy Committee

Chair: Mr. Jack Dubois (until Jan 02)

Priorities:

- Sustainability Indicators
- Fish and Wildlife Strategies
- COSDI Implementation
  - Review of current sustainable development strategies
  - Sustainable development auditor
- Manitoba Round Table Annual Report

Other tasks:

- Review of Sustainable Development Principles and Guidelines
- Review of Sustainable Development Strategy
- Advise on component strategies
- Sustainability Report
- Policy/Legislation changes

Planning and Assessment Committee

Chair: Mr. Doug Lauvstad

Priorities:

- COSDI Implementation
  - Broad Area Planning: East Side Lake Winnipeg
  - Environmental Assessment
  - Public Participation
  - Federal / Provincial Interface
  - Aboriginal Interface

Other Tasks:

- Water Management Strategy
- Northern Development Strategy
- Sustainable Agriculture

Environmental Quality/Economic Development Committee

Co-chairs: Dr. Peter Miller and Honourable Greg Selinger

Priorities:

- Energy/Climate Change
- Green Budgeting and Finance
- Financial Management Guidelines
- Abandoned Sites / Remediation / Contaminated Sites
- Environmental Standards
- Procurement Guidelines
- Code of Practice
- Institutional Sustainability

Other Tasks:

- Waste Management

Education and Communication Committee

Chair: Ms. Jillian Maguet

Priorities:

- Education Strategy
- Youth Round Table
- Awards of Excellence Program
- Scholarship Program
- Communications Strategy

Human Settlement Committee

Chair: Mr. Dwayne Hamilton

Priorities:

- Rural Depopulation

Other Tasks:

- Capital Region
- Sustainable Community Planning
- Regional Cooperation

STAFF SUPPORT

Tammy Gibson - Manitoba Conservation

David Jopling – Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs

Christina McDonald - Manitoba Education Training and Youth

Karen McRobbie – Manitoba Conservation

Joe Morrisseau – Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs

Luke Peloquin – Manitoba Conservation

Herb Schellenberg – Manitoba Agriculture and Food

Kip Tyler – Manitoba Conservation

Christine Tymchak – Manitoba Conservation

APPENDIX I

PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Principles:

Integration of Environmental and Economic Decisions

1(1) Economic decisions should adequately reflect environmental, human health and social effects.

1(2) Environmental and health initiatives should adequately take into account economic, human health and social consequences.

Stewardship

2(1) The economy, the environment, human health and social well-being should be managed for the equal benefit of present and future generations.

2(2) Manitobans are caretakers of the economy, the environment, human health and social well-being for the benefit of present and future generations.

2(3) Today's decisions are to be balanced with tomorrow's effects.

Shared Responsibility and Understanding

3(1) Manitobans should acknowledge responsibility for sustaining the economy, the environment, human health and social well-being, with each being accountable for decisions and actions in a spirit of partnership and open cooperation.

3(2) Manitobans share a common economic, physical and social environment.

3(3) Manitobans should understand and respect differing economic and social views, values, traditions and aspirations.

3(4) Manitobans should consider the aspirations, needs and views of the people of the various geographical regions and ethnic groups in Manitoba, including Aboriginal peoples, to facilitate equitable management of Manitoba's common resources.

Prevention

4 Manitobans should anticipate, and prevent or mitigate, significant adverse economic, environmental, human health and social effects of decisions and actions, having particular careful regard to decisions whose impacts are not entirely certain but which, on reasonable and well-informed grounds, appear to pose serious threats to the economy, the environment, human health and social well-being.

Conservation and Enhancement

5 Manitobans should

(a) maintain the ecological processes, biological diversity and life-support systems of the environment;

(b) harvest renewable resources on a sustainable yield basis;

(c) make wise and efficient use of renewable and non-renewable resources; and

(d) enhance the long-term productive capability, quality and capacity of natural ecosystem.

Rehabilitation and Reclamation

6 Manitobans should

(a) endeavour to repair damage to or degradation of the environment; and

(b) consider the need for rehabilitation and reclamation in future decisions and actions.

Global Responsibility

7 Manitobans should think globally when acting locally, recognizing that there is economic, ecological and social interdependence among provinces and nations, and working cooperatively, within Canada and internationally, to integrate economic, environmental, human health and social factors in decision-making while developing comprehensive and equitable solutions to problems.

Guidelines:

Efficient Use of Resources - which means

(a) encouraging and facilitating development and application of systems for proper resource pricing, demand management and resource allocation together with incentives to encourage efficient use of resources; and

(b) employing full-cost accounting to provide better information for decision makers.

Public Participation - which means

(a) establishing forums which encourage and provide opportunity for consultation and meaningful participation in decision-making processes by Manitobans;

(b) endeavouring to provide due process, prior notification and appropriate and timely redress for those adversely affected by decisions and actions; and

(c) striving to achieve consensus amongst citizens with regard to decisions affecting them.

Access to Information - which means

(a) encouraging and facilitating the improvement and refinement of economic, environmental, human health and social information; and

(b) promoting the opportunity for equal and timely access to information by all Manitobans.

Integrated Decision Making and Planning - which means

encouraging and facilitating decision making and planning processes that are efficient, timely, accountable and cross-sectoral and which incorporate an inter-generational perspective of future needs and consequences.

Waste Minimization and Substitution - which means

(a) encouraging and promoting the development and use of substitutes for scarce resources where such substitutes are both environmentally sound and economically viable; and

(b) reducing, reusing, recycling and recovering the products of society.

Research and Innovation - which means

encouraging and assisting the researching, development, application and sharing of knowledge and technologies which further our economic, environmental, human health and social well-being.